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Attorney Docket No. COE-523

PATENT APPLICATION Serial No. 10/045,381

REMARKS

Applicants appreciate Examiner's timely and thorough review of the response to the final office action. Applicants have canceled all rejected claims. Amendments to the objected to Claims 4, 5 and 11–16 have been done to address Examiner's concerns. Applicants have placed all remaining allowed claims, including claims 25 and 26 by amendment, in a proper form for allowance. Applicants request the amendment to Fig. 1 as submitted in the response to the Final Office Action be entered concurrently with the present amendments to the claims. No new material has been added. Reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested.

To assist in reviewing Applicants' response: where Applicants have quoted Examiner's advisory action, the quoted material is single-spaced and indented and Applicants' response to Examiner's concerns is in bold print.

In the advisory action, Examiner checked two boxes for not entering the amendment: a) raises new issues and b) not deemed to put application in better form for appeal, also stating in a note:

The applicant has included limitations not previously presented, for example, claiming a "passive system." Also, regarding claims 1 and 11, the applicant is claiming both panels and a system that are vertically moveable without changing the horizontal orientation of the system. This has potentially created a 35 U.S.C. §112 situation because of possible double inclusions. Regarding claims 12 and 25, the applicant has included limitation language not previously presented, i.e., "so as to partially impede..." Furthermore, the examiner could not find persuasive arguments directed specifically to the rejection of claims 21 and 22.

Applicants have rescinded the language involving alleged new issues, canceled all rejected claims, including but not limited to claims 1, 21, and 22, and amended objected to claims 4, 5, 11–16, and 25 and claim 26, to comply with examiner's comments in both the advisory action and the final office action.



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No new matter has been entered via this amendment. The objected to claims have been amended to comply with examiner's comments. In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully requested that the subject application be passed to issue as amended hereby with currently amended Claims 4, 5 and 11–16, 25 and 26 and previously presented Claims 23, 24, 27 and 28.

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U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Humphreys Engineer Center CEHEC-OC (Kingman Bldg.) 7701 Telegraph Road Alexandria, VA 22315-3860 505 342-3360 Respectfully Submitted,

EARL H. BAUGHER, JR Attorney for Applicants 40,905